

MESSAGE NOTES

February 5, 2012

His Design, Our Hope

#16 The Reason for Hope

Mark 10:1-31

Only in Christ can God's _____ become our _____.

God designed marriage for _____.

(Mark 10:1-12)

God designed children for _____.

(Mark 10:13-16)

God designed people for _____.

(Mark 10:17-31)

Only in Christ can God's design become our delight.

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February 6-11, 2012

MONDAY

Read Mark 10:1-12. What was the ulterior motive of the Pharisees' question to Jesus? What did their query reveal about the condition of their hearts? According to Jesus' response, what is God's ultimate intent for the permanence of marriage as established with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden? (See also Genesis 2:18-25.)

TUESDAY

Reread Mark 10:1-12 and read Ephesians 5:22-33. What is the correlation that Paul draws between the relationship of a husband and wife and the relationship of Christ and the church? How does Paul's instruction help us understand God's ultimate purpose for marriage? Spend time praying for the marriages of believers you know and, if you are married, for your own marriage to reflect the goodness of God's grace toward us in Christ.

WEDNESDAY

Read Mark 10:13-16. How does the response of the disciples in these verses strike you in light of Jesus' specific teaching in Mark 9:33-37? The disciples lived and ministered alongside Jesus and yet they still missed the core of His message. How much more susceptible are we to this same type of spiritual blindness? How do Jesus' message and model in 10:15-16 help us to "receive the kingdom of God"?

THURSDAY

Read Mark 10:17-31. Jesus questioned the man concerning the commandments in the law, then asked him a question that identified the idol of his heart. What is the purpose of the law, according to Galatians 3:22-24? How would you describe the idol of this man's heart and the heart change Jesus is asking of him in order for him to inherit eternal life?

FRIDAY

Reread Mark 10:17-31. Compare children with those who are wealthy, considering the attitude necessary to enter the kingdom in 10:15. What makes it difficult, in fact impossible apart from the grace of God, for someone who is wealthy to enter the kingdom of God? What is your attitude toward possessions? Have they become idols that keep you from God? In what ways are you nurturing your delight in Him and gratitude for His grace and righteousness in Christ that will overpower the attraction of wealth?

WEEKEND

Reread Mark 10:17-31 and Galatians 3:22-24. What does Peter's question reveal about his misunderstanding about the role of the law to lead us to a relationship with God? What enables someone to enter the kingdom of God? Now read 1 Peter 3:18. What is the basis of your hope in your relationship with God? How are you cultivating your relationship with God on a daily basis by spending time with Him, in His Word and prayer, and with other believers?